

CFBHPP Committee
Meeting Summary
December 14, 2006
Conference Room C – Henrico CSB
Glen Allen

I. Welcome and Introductions **Brian Meyer**

II. Approval of Minutes **Brian Meyer**

Joanne moved and Catherine approved. Motion passed to approve the minutes.

III. DMHMRSAS Vision for Children's Services **Ray Ratke**

Brian introduced Ray Ratke. Pertinent points from his presentation:

- The system for children's services is complex. Need to come to a broad-based unified system of how we are going to serve children. Don't have a clear sense of what our overall vision is for how we're going to serve children and families.
- Thanked the committee for its work. Budget requests have been fully vetted and therefore the Department has been willing to support the recommendations for initiatives. Used the recommendations and added to them.
- The stronger this group becomes, the stronger the advocacy for children's services.
- Vision; the idea of a system of care, wrapping services around kids, engaging various agencies in a collaborative manner, family-friendly, least restrictive environment, having services driven by what the child needs and not the funding source, what the family decides are the most appropriate services. The vision aligns with the Department's vision of empowerment, family choice, services that are not punitive in nature.
- Child serving system works best where places get closer to the vision described above. It is possible to get there.
- One of the problems encountered at the state level, we don't model that behavior and that vision, different departments, with different requirements, etc. We are not organized around the vision at the state level.
- Have to come to a shared vision of how services are delivered and work toward implementing it, without working at cross purposes. We have keys to what a vision needs to be, not the Department's vision but a state vision.
- Ray encouraged this body to think boldly about this and make recommendations about this issue. We need to, for our System, across agencies; we need to develop some shared sense of what we're trying to do even though we have different

- missions. Need to work that out and figure a way to come to a common understanding. As a state we have to have a better discussion of those issues.
- Regarding the budget; the Department put forward all the recommendations that the committee supported and added to them. Because it is an interim budget year, the Department can only respond to immediate budget situations, emergency, and/or mandates. Ray anticipates some additional funding for children's services. Very hopeful that we will see some investments for children's services.
 - Ray views support for investments in children is influenced positively by the first lady's interest in permanency planning, custody relinquishment, and other children's issues, has numerous discussions about children's issues with key individuals and the SEC, the JLARC report which supports the notion that there are some things about children's services that need to be done differently, and the Attorney General's opinion regarding custody relinquishment. Ray views all of this positive.
 - Discussion:
 - This is an exciting time for children's services. There is a public focus on children's services. Brian attributed this to the work of this committee and the Department's creation of the Office of Children's Services.
 - Ray was asked to expand on his comment about asking the committee to think boldly. Ray related instances of attendance at policy academy, spending hours trying to figure out how to transform children's services. It may be the issue of needing new ideas, do we need to shift funding around, how services are organized, etc. We are at a point of recognition that things are broke, when you rely on residential services as the primary place to go for services and when you know that you subject kids to other kids with severe problems and then there are issues of safety, increase potentials for negative outcomes. How do we change that? Need a better partnership with the private sector. We need to partner with the private sector about developing services.
 - Ray was asked to react to thoughts about a cabinet level position or a children's agency. There are political realities associated with thinking boldly. There may be ways to bring these ideas up for discussion again. If this committee supports ideas that are not supported at higher levels, above, unlikely that the ideas will go anywhere. How do we be bold and at the same time politically astute and strategic. Perhaps there is need for this committee to work more closely with the Commissioner's office and other state agencies.
 - Family support services needs to be re-framed and viewed differently. There is not an understanding that family support services are necessary to support families and increase their ability to care for their children. Response; what kinds of services would the committee like to see? The recommendations put forth by the committee such as respite services were not supported by the legislature. Suggested that Virginia flex funding for family support services.

- Points about family support are very consistent with the Department's vision of empowerment, recovery, and resiliency. Need a broader description about what we do, not just about those services that are "medically" necessary. Ray suggested it would be helpful to frame that, how the notion of the Department's vision aligns with children's services.
- Ray emphasized the point about partnering with private providers to create the system we want and not what is already being provided, developing new services.
- Family support needs to be re-framed so that support can be generated to fund family support. Ray made the point there was a pot of recovery funding as part of the Department's system transformation that had maximum flexibility attached to it. There still needs to be accountability for what services are being provided, etc., the precedent has been established. We need to look at a new way to consider funding for services.
- There has been discussion about this year's report. Could we call the next biennium, the biennium of the child, putting forth the notion of family and children's initiative, request to the Department, would it consider a re-design of how children's services are delivered; financing, etc. would the Commissioner be comfortable with supporting the report if it were framed as noted above. Ray said he would think about it, suggested we would need to think strategically about it.
- The question was posed about whether this would be a Department initiative or would it be proposed system-wide.
- Point was made about in-home services as twelve months of services and it is not realistic to think about families being given six months to show improvements.

IV. OCFS Report

Shirley Ricks

Shirley went over the handouts disseminated at the meeting today. In the JLARC report there is a section on the gaps in children's services. It was recommended that members read the full report. There were 27 recommendations in the report. Went over the update and Shirley talked briefly about the Mental Health Law Reform; there are three workgroups with a focus on children. The Department requested the VACSB to focus on children's issues at their May meeting. The OAG opinion is included in the packet.

V. Committee Reports

- State Facilities Bed Use

Don Roe

Report will be presented January 23 to the Department. Vickey moved, motion was seconded by Shirley and the motion to adopt the report passed. The final report as adopted will be posted on the OCFS web page.

- Expansion of Community-Based Services

Pat Haley

The committee will re-convene in February to evaluate grant process and lessons learned. Essentially the work of the committee is completed.

- Adolescent Substance Abuse Services

Martha Kurgans

The committee is working on a strategic plan for inclusion in the CFBHPP report. Priority areas are funding, collaboration, implementation of best practices, workforce development and family support.

- VA INFO

Vicki Hardy-Murrell

There are two components to VA INFO; one is a coalition comprised of approximately 150 family members, professionals, and individuals interested in family issues. The second component is a resource center, now called the Family to Family Resource Center, to align with the Maternal and Child Health block grant to clarify the purpose of the Center and to ensure on-going funding. Medical Home Plus and Parent to Parent have submitted a proposal to Maternal and Child Health for funding for the center and Medical Home Plus has a student intern who will working at the Center.

VI. Status of 2006 Report

**Mary Dunne Stewart
Vicki Hardy-Murrell**

Brian reported about a meeting that occurred with DMAS on 12/13/06. The purpose of the meeting was to ask DMAS to conduct a rate study and DMAS agreed to conduct one. Catherine, Pat, Vickey, and Brian attended the meeting. After the General Assembly session, a meeting will be planned for a rate study. Brian encouraged members to spread the word and ask for their cooperation to participate in the study.

Mary Dunne reported about a meeting that was held with Ray Ratke. Mary reported meeting with several legislators, the Governor's office, Commissioner Reinhard, and others. Mary working to get broad support for the recommendations in the report. Members of the Joint Commission agreed to bring recommendations forward that are not included in the Governor's budget.

Kim Snead reported on the Behavioral Health Care Subcommittee budget recommendations. Among the recommendations: the sub-committee approved budget recommendations for increasing capacity in juvenile detention centers, recommendations contained in the 330F report related to increasing workforce capacity and enhancing workforce initiatives. (Refer to the 2006 report for further information). Sub-committee

plans to take on autism for next year and may consider funding for training for this next year.

VII. 2007 Report

Brian Meyer

Mental Health Law Reform
AG opinion on Custody Relinquishment
JLARC Study on Residential Treatment
Hanger Commission on CSA
SOC Demonstration Project
Medicaid waiver for community based treatment
Legislative Autism concerns
HJR 96
Joint sub-committee on behavioral health care
CSA Expansion of community-based services
Project TREAT
SA infrastructure
Medicaid behavioral health services rate study
Mental health services in detention centers
Adult Transformation Initiative
Inspector General's study
Early Childhood Initiative
Governor's Health Reform Commission

Pertinent points:

Brian proposed that the committee begin to think about the 2007 report around the following:

- Funding/Programs/Population
- Workforce Capacity/Development
- Structures Homes (Autism)
Coordinating for child/family
Processes (that go with structures)
- System strategies Vision
Leadership

Discussion:

- Suggestion that members of the executive committee meet with their respective agency heads to talk about what will be proposed in the 2007 report.
- Brian suggested floating "trial balloons".
- The initiatives need to be broader if the committee is indeed supporting transformation. Brian asked committee to consider whether they are

willing to support this kind of initiative, i.e. systems change. What are we going to do as individuals to make this happen, are we willing to confront resistance.

- How do members communicate the recommendations to their respective agency heads? What is it like when members take information back to their agencies? What happens? Empathy for children with SED at DOE, local school divisions may not be as empathetic about the needs of children with SED
- Suggestions of where to take information: VACSB, if we proposed school-based mental health, DOE would facilitate identifying schools to participate in the initiative.
- Struggle to get past individuals' "old" scripts, individuals perception of what would be lost if support were given for a specific initiative, what is more powerful, behavior or the words, who wins, who loses, depends on what the issue is, funding is the main issue. There is an understanding of the need for funding to improve services, at the local level, how does that look, how does it affect individual agency funding, MR Special Populations workgroup's priority is adults, children are not their priority.
- Planning and prevention are additional dimensions. Where is an agency on the continuum of prevention and "fire fighting"? This committee's emphasis is planning and prevention. Concerns expressed about the feasibility of a rate study with some CEO's may not be receptive to the notion of sharing data/information about individual facility rates.
- If there is no change at the top, systems change at the local level would be limited and it would be perceived as another unfunded mandate. Is there political will at the state level to encourage localities to come together to plan for change, with a commitment to see change happen. The top must be willing to embrace a model and promote it at the local level.

Recommendations for the 2007 report:

- Frame recommendations as a way to get residential costs under control
- Re-direction of the dollars
- Results and outcome stories
 - Data
- How to eliminate mandated/non-mandated distinction
- Need to create a baseline of knowledge so that there is understanding about what the committee is asking for
- Capacity in-state to bring children back from out-of-state
- How to build capacity
 - Prevention/early intervention
 - Flexibility – CSA funds to do start-ups
- Family Support Services/Family services and supports
 - Placement/prevention
 - Family preservation/maintenance

Child-in-family services

- Respite
 - In-home
 - Residential
 - Center-based
- Parent therapy/substance abuse treatment
- Parent training
- Parent senseis
- Year-round in-home services
- Peer support/parent to parent
- Behavioral aides

- Reintegration/reunification
- What are the core pieces the committee will focus on with the report?
- Brian asked the committee to think about community to community mentoring.
- Point was made that this committee needs to revisit the issue of the challenges associated with systems change.
- **Agenda for the January 11, 2007 meeting:**
 - Presentation on January 11 about Prevent Child Abuse Virginia
 - Governor's budget
 - Medicaid waiver – presentation DMAS and OCFS (Catherine and Shirley)

VIII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Don Roe, second by Martha Kurgans, motion passed, meeting adjourned.